

**Conservation Commission Minutes  
Tuesday, February 14, 2012  
Town Hall Meeting Room, Old Town Rd.  
5:30pm**

**Present:** Members: Chair Ned Phillips Jr., Vice Chair John Hopf, Fred Leeder, David Roosa and Leslie Slate. Members absent: Donald Littlefield and Marea Mott. Also present was Terri Chmiel for the recording of the minutes.

**Call to Order**

Chair Mr. Phillips, Jr. called the meeting to order at 5:30p.m.

**Approval of Minutes of January 17, 2012**

A motion was made by Mr. Phillips, Jr. and seconded by Mr. Hopf to approve the minutes of January 17, 2012 with minor corrections. The motion carried with all in favor.

5 Ayes (Phillips, Leeder, Roosa, Hopf and Slate)

0 Nays

2 Absent (Littlefield and Mott)

**Correspondence**

Mr. Hopf asked for input on a letter he drafted to the Block Island Resident's Associates (BIRA). The drafted letter thanked BIRA for their donation and updated both BIRA and the Town Council on the progress of the beach access at Graces Cove. Mr. Hopf will work with Terri on the draft letter.

**New Business**

**Discuss Tree Preservation and Protection**

Mr. Phillips, Jr. reported that he met with the Town Council on January 18, 2012, to discuss the responsibility of a tree warden, monitor tree trimming on public property and a tree ordinance for Block Island. The Commission will look at modeling the Newport tree ordinance.

Mr. Roosa joined the meeting at 5:35pm.

**Discuss Bathroom Facilities at the Ball O'Brien Park**

Mr. Leeder discussed the consideration of waterless urinals at the Ball O'Brien Park. He stated that Yellow Kittens and Payne's Dock are currently using this system. Mr. Leeder stated several key components of this system are:

- Yellow Kittens save about \$6,000.00 a year on water bills on this system.
- Easy to service

- Biodegradable
- The fixtures cost between \$250.00 for the china model and \$500.00 for industrial blue plastic.
- The cost is approximately \$20.00 a quart to service 15,000 uses.

Rob Closter, Recreation Director was present. Mr. Closter discussed the prefab building that will house the restrooms.

Mr. Leeder reviewed with the Commission a draft letter to the Town Council asking for consideration of the installation of the use of the waterless urinals at the Ball O'Brien Park.

Mr. Phillips, Jr. made a motion seconded by Mr. Slate to send a letter of recommendation to the Town Council for consideration of the master plan of site development for waterless urinals at the Ball O'Brien Park

5 Ayes (Phillips, Leeder, Roosa, Hopf and Slate)

0 Nays

2 Absent (Littlefield and Mott)

### **Old Business**

#### **Snow Fencing**

The Commission will meet on March 3, 2012 to put in another 4 rolls of snow fencing.

#### **Beach Access Points**

Mr. Hopf acknowledged that Mike Shea agreed to assist with the distribution of the stone at Grace's Cove beach access. Mr. Hopf reported that the next step is to begin work at Dorries Cove. Mr. Leeder spoke that he is not in favor of the improvements for the beach access points. He pointed out that the work could add more responsibility to the Commission.

### **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:46p.m. in a motion by Mr. Leeder and seconded by Mr. Phillips, Jr.

5 Ayes (Phillips, Leeder, Roosa, Hopf and Slate)

0 Nays

2 Absent (Littlefield and Mott)

Respectfully submitted

Terri L. Chmiel

Minutes approved: March 13, 2012